

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 EA-10 ISO-00 SMS-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05
H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02
SS-15 ICA-11 TRSE-00 OMB-01 ACDA-12 EB-08 COME-00
STR-07 /105 W

-----082605 231348Z /44

R 230705Z AUG 78
FM AMEMBASSY SOFIA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5136
INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE
AMEMBASSY BERLIN
AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST
AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY PEKING
AMEMBASSY PRAGUE
/AMEMBASSY TOKYO 78
AMEMBASSY WARSAW

C O N F I D E N T I A L SOFIA 1735

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PEPR, JA, CH
SUBJECT: JAPANESE DEMARCHE ON THE SINO-JAPANESE TREATY

1. THE JAPANESE AMBASSADOR, YAMATO, HAS INFORMED ME THAT
ON AUGUST 17 HE CALLED ON DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTER MINCHEV,
ON INSTRUCTIONS, TO PRESENT A DEMARCHE EXPLAINING TO THE
BULGARIAN GOVERNMENT THAT THE SINO-JAPANESE TREATY WAS NOT
DIRECTED AGAINST ANY THIRD POWER. PRESUMABLY SIMILAR
DEMARCHES ARE BEING MADE IN OTHER WARSAW PACT CAPITALS.

2. YAMATO SAID THAT MINCHEV HAD INDICATED THAT BULGARIA
DID NOT REGARD THE TREATY AS IN ANY WAY AFFECTING BULGARIA,
BUT WAS CONCERNED THAT IT COULD BE CONSTRUED AS REPRESENTING
A MOVE AGAINST THE SOVIET UNION, BULGARIA'S ALLY.
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YAMATO REPLIED THAT THE REFERENCE TO OPPOSING HEGEMONISM
SHOULD NOT BE OF CONCERN TO ANY POWER NOT PURSUING
HEGEMONISTIC AIMS. THE DISCUSSION, ACCORDING TO YAMATO,
WAS BRIEF AND NOTHING UNEXPECTED WAS SAID.

3. COMMENT: THE JAPANESE INITIATIVE, AT LEAST IN
BULGARIA, WAS UNDERTAKEN IN THE HOPE OF BLUNTING TO SOME

DEGREE SOVIET-INSPIRED HOSTILITY TO THE TREATY. SPECIFICALLY, THE JAPANESE HOPED TO PREVENT ANY NEGATIVE SPILL-OVER EFFECT ON THEIR GROWING TRADE WITH BULGARIA (AND PRESUMABLY OTHER SOVIET ALLIES IN EASTERN EUROPE).
GARTHOFF

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Disposition Approved on Date:
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